

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE PFOR XG

SUBJECT: CSCE: POSITIONS OF ALLIES - PART 2 - FRANCE

1. IN RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST, WE TRANSMIT BELOW OUR CURRENT ESTIMATE OF PARTICULAR CONCERNS WHICH FRANCE HAS IN CSCE. WE HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT ATTEMPTED TO ELABORATE ON SUBJECTS WHICH ARE OF GENERAL CONCERN TO ALL OR MOST NATO ALLIES, AND OF WHICH THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE.

2. PRINCIPLES--

(A) GENERAL--FRENCH SHARE GENERAL ALLIED GOALS OF PROTECTION OF WESTERN POSITIONS OF PRINCIPLE, ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO GERMANY AND BERLIN, AND ATTENUATION OF THE BREZHNEV DOCTRINE.

(B) BREZHNEV DOCTRINE--FRENCH ARE STRONGLY INTERESTED IN UNDERCUTTING THE BREZHNEV DOCTRINE, AND THIS AFFECTS THEIR APPROACH TO NEARLY EVERY PRINCIPLE. FOR THE SAME REASON THEY HAVE ALSO SUPPORTED ROMANIAN PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NONE-USE OF FORCE PRINCIPLE.

(C) EQUAL VALUE--FRENCH DRAFT OF LIST OF PRINCIPLES DEFINED BASIC WESTERN APPROACH TO ISSUE OF

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EQUAL VALUE AND INTERRELATIONSHIP OF PRINCIPLES AND

FRENCH WILL WANT TO CONTINUE TO PLAY A PROMINANT ROLE IN DISCUSSION OF THIS POINT.

(D) QUADRIPARTITE RIGHTS--FRENCH ARE VERY CONCERNED THAT THE PRINCIPLES DECLARATION SHOULD NOT APPEAR TO UNDERMINE QRR IN GERMANY AND BERLIN.

3. MILITARY ASPECTS--

(A) GENERAL--FRENCH SHARE GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF NATO ALLIES TO HAVE SOME MODEST MILITARY CONTENT IN CSCE, IN FORM OF MEANINGFUL AGREEMENT ON CBMS.

(B) OTHER MILITARY ASPECTS--FRENCH OPPOSE ANY REFERENCE TO MBFR IN CSCE DOCUMENTS, AND HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT GENERAL PROVISIONS WHICH MIGHT RESULT FROM PARA 22 AND 24 OF HELSINKI RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. ECONOMICS--EC-NINE SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE ON TRADE ISSUES, WHICH COMPRISE THE BULK OF ECONOMIC SUBJECTS IN CSCE. THEIR BASIC OBJECTIVE IS TO LIBERALIZE EASTERN TRADE REGIMES, WHILE RETAINING POSSIBILITIES FOR USE OF PROTECTIVE DEVICES AGAINST POTENTIALLY DAMAGING EASTERN TRADE PRACTICES.

5. BASKET III--

(A) GENERAL--FRENCH SHARE GENERAL ALLIED OBJECTIVE OF OBTAINING SOME MEANINGFUL FREER MOVEMENT PROVISIONS, PARTICULARLY UNDER HEADINGS OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION, MARRIAGE, TRAVEL, AUDIO-VISUAL INFORMATION, WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS; AND CULTURE.

(B) AVOID CAVEATS--FRENCH WANT TO AVOID LIMITING CAVEATS ON THOSE FREER MOVEMENT PROVISIONS WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED, SUCH AS THE SOVIET PROPOSAL THAT HUMAN CONTACTS AGREEMENTS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO "MUTUALLY AGREED CONDITIONS."

(C) CULTURE--FRENCH HAVE LED WESTERN GROUP IN MAKING PROPOSALS IN CULTURAL FIELD, AND ATTACH PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO TEXT ON ACCESS TO CULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS, WHICH INCLUDES PROVISIONS FOR INCREASING AVAILABILITY OF FOREIGN BOOKS, EXPANDING NUMBER OF SALES OUTLETS FOR FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF LIBRARIES/ READING ROOMS FOR FOREIGN BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

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FRENCH ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN SPELLING OUT COMMON CULTURAL OBJECTIVES, AND IN FACILITATING CULTURAL CONTACTS.

(D) EDUCATION--FRENCH HAVE SPECIAL INTEREST IN FACILITATING EXPANSION OF FRENCH-LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION, ALTHOUGH THEY DO NOT HAVE FULL ALLIED SUPPORT FOR GIVING THE FRENCH LANGUAGE SUCH SPECIAL RECOGNITION.

6. FOLLOW-UP--FRENCH ARE MOST RESERVED OF ALL

NATO ALLIES ON A FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM. NEVERTHELESS, SAUVAGNARGUES HAS RECENTLY STATED IN PUBLIC THAT FRENCH MIGHT AGREE TO PERIODIC CSCE-TYPE MEETINGS.

7. MEDITERRANEAN--FRENCH, WITH ITALIANS, SPONSORED IDEA OF A CSCE MEDITERRANEAN DECLARATION, WHICH THEY HOPE WILL SATISFY NEED OF NON-PARTICIPATING MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL STATES TO HAVE SOME RELATIONSHIP TO CSCE. THEY ARE NOW ACTIVELY PURSUING THE DRAFTING OF THIS DECLARATION, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO LIMIT MEDITERRANEAN IMPLICATIONS ELSEWHERE IN THE CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THEY HAVE STATED THEIR VIEW THAT THE MALTESE PROPOSAL FOR A MEDITERRANEAN MONITORING COMMITTEE IS BEYOND THE MANDATE OF CSCE.

8. LEVEL OF STAGE III--UNTIL POMPIDOU'S DEATH, THE FRENCH WERE POSSIBLE HOLD-OUTS ON A SUMMIT-LEVEL STAGE III, AND THE FRENCH DELEGATION SWORE POMPIDOU WOULD NEVER AGREE TO A SUMMIT. SINCE GISCARD'S ELECTION, HOWEVER, FRENCH DEL HAS PRIVATELY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT FRANCE WILL PROBABLY AGREE TO A SUMMIT, AND SAUVAGNARGUES SAID RECENTLY ON TV THAT FRANCE HAD NOT REFUSED A SUMMIT. DALE

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